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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/713,481	11/14/2003	Partha Saha	Inno-024	1202

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EXAMINER	
DAFTUAR, SAKET K	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/713,481	SAHA, PARTHA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Saket K. Daftuar	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 November 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *09/02/05*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are presented for the examination.

Specification

2. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

(a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
(b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
(c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
(d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
(e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
(f) **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.**
(1) Field of the Invention.
(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
(g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
(h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
(i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
(j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
(k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
(l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Content of Specification

(a) Title of the Invention: See 37 CFR 1.72(a) and MPEP § 606. The title of the invention should be placed at the top of the first page of the

specification unless the title is provided in an application data sheet. The title of the invention should be brief but technically accurate and descriptive, preferably from two to seven words may not contain more than 500 characters.

(b) Cross-References to Related Applications: See 37 CFR 1.78 and MPEP § 201.11.

(c) Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research and Development: See MPEP § 310.

(d) The Names Of The Parties To A Joint Research Agreement: See 37 CFR 1.71(g).

(e) Incorporation-By-Reference Of Material Submitted On a Compact Disc: The specification is required to include an incorporation-by-reference of electronic documents that are to become part of the permanent United States Patent and Trademark Office records in the file of a patent application. See 37 CFR 1.52(e) and MPEP § 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text were permitted as electronic documents on compact discs beginning on September 8, 2000.

(f) Background of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(c). The specification should set forth the Background of the Invention in two parts:

(1) Field of the Invention: A statement of the field of art to which the invention pertains. This statement may include a paraphrasing of the applicable U.S. patent classification definitions of the subject matter of the claimed invention. This item may also be titled "Technical Field."

(2) Description of the Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98: A description of the related art known to the applicant and including, if applicable, references to specific related art and problems involved in the prior art which are solved by the applicant's invention. This item may also be titled "Background Art."

(g) Brief Summary of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(d). A brief summary or general statement of the invention as set forth in 37 CFR 1.73. The summary is separate and distinct from the abstract and is directed toward the invention rather than the disclosure as a whole. The summary may point out the advantages of the invention or how it solves problems

previously existent in the prior art (and preferably indicated in the Background of the Invention). In chemical cases it should point out in general terms the utility of the invention. If possible, the nature and gist of the invention or the inventive concept should be set forth. Objects of the invention should be treated briefly and only to the extent that they contribute to an understanding of the invention.

(h) Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawing(s): See MPEP § 608.01(f). A reference to and brief description of the drawing(s) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.74.

(i) Detailed Description of the Invention: See MPEP § 608.01(g). A description of the preferred embodiment(s) of the invention as required in 37 CFR 1.71. The description should be as short and specific as is necessary to describe the invention adequately and accurately. Where elements or groups of elements, compounds, and processes, which are conventional and generally widely known in the field of the invention described and their exact nature or type is not necessary for an understanding and use of the invention by a person skilled in the art, they should not be described in detail. However, where particularly complicated subject matter is involved or where the elements, compounds, or processes may not be commonly or widely known in the field, the specification should refer to another patent or readily available publication which adequately describes the subject matter.

(j) Claim or Claims: See 37 CFR 1.75 and MPEP § 608.01(m). The claim or claims must commence on separate sheet or electronic page (37 CFR 1.52(b)(3)). Where a claim sets forth a plurality of elements or steps, each element or step of the claim should be separated by a line indentation. There may be plural indentations to further segregate subcombinations or related steps. See 37 CFR 1.75 and MPEP § 608.01(i)-(p).

(k) Abstract of the Disclosure: See MPEP § 608.01(f). A brief narrative of the disclosure as a whole in a single paragraph of 150 words or less commencing on a separate sheet following the claims. In an international application which has entered the national stage (37 CFR 1.491(b)), the applicant need not submit an abstract commencing on a separate sheet if an abstract was published with the international application under PCT Article 21. The abstract that appears on the cover page of the pamphlet published by the International Bureau (IB) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the abstract that will be used by the USPTO. See MPEP § 1893.03(e).

(l) Sequence Listing, See 37 CFR 1.821-1.825 and MPEP §§ 2421-2431. The requirement for a sequence listing applies to all sequences disclosed

in a given application, whether the sequences are claimed or not. See MPEP § 2421.02.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 16 objected to because of the following informalities: "claim 16 is sub-manager of claim 10". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-2, 5-11 and 14-18, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McHann Jr. U.S. Patent Number 5,991,806 (hereinafter McHann).

As per claim 1, McHann discloses a network management agent [see Figure 4, Agent] for exchanging master network management [Network Operation Center] messages with the network management system [Managing System]; a connections module for establishing a network connection with each of the plurality of clients [dynamic system controller in a computer connected with a plurality of subsystems, Abstract]; a message handling module [dynamic system controller, block 810, figure 8] for: receiving a master network management request message from the network management system [see

Figure 9, column 9,line 31 – column 10, line 26], the master network management request message including a plurality of master object identifiers, each master object identifier comprising a client identifier that identifies [See Figure 4, block 406; column 8, lines 1-9 for object and client identifier in MIB] a particular one of the clients and a variable portion that identifies a variable value within a client management information base ;generating at least one client network management request message , each client network management request message including a client object identifier that identifies the variable value within the client management information base [see column 4, lines 1-8]; providing each client network management request message to the particular one of the clients identified by the client identifier over the network connection established with such particular one of the clients [Figure 11, column 12, lines 5-32]; receiving a client response message from each of the particular one of the clients to which a client network management message was provided, each client response message including the client object identifier and the variable value [Figure 11, column 12, lines 5-32]; aggregating each client response message to generate a master response message, the master response message [forwarding event notification message across network and monitoring the forwarded message, Figure 11, blocks 1110 - 1116] including the plurality of master object identifiers and each master object identifier [See Figure 4, block 406; column 8, lines 1-9 for object and client identifier in MIB] comprising the client identifier and the variable value received in the client response message

[Figure 11, column 12, lines 5-51]; and providing the master response message to the network management system [Figure 11, block 1122].

As per claim 2, McHann discloses the variable portion of the master object identifier is the client object identifier [See Figure 4, block 406; column 8, lines 1-9 for object and client identifier in MIB].

As per claim 5, McHann discloses periodically receiving a heart beat message [specific power event signal, column 10, lines 34 – column 11, line, 60] from the client over the connection; each heart beat message [specific power event signal] including the client identifier and a time interval between the heart beat message and a subsequent heart beat message [column 8, lines 1-9, column 10, lines 34 – column 11, line, 60]; updating the client connection identifier in the active connection table [node table] if the source IP address or the source port number obtained from the heart beat message differs from that of a previous heart beat message [column 8, lines 1-9, column 10, lines 34 – column 11, line, 60]; providing a heart beat acknowledgement message to the client over the connection [column 8, lines 1-9, column 10, lines 34 – column 11, line, 60]; and determining that the connection is inactive if a time period in excess of the time interval elapses during which a subsequent heart beat message has not been received [specific power event signal received by the controller regarding device state and monitoring each event with respect to device state status occurring in real time and, column 8, lines 1-9, column 10, lines 34 – column 11, line, 60].

As per claim 6, McHann discloses the master response message includes an indication that the a value [specified value] does not exist if the value is associated with a master object identifier [version identifier] that includes a client identifier [request ID correlates a manager request with an agent response] associated with a client with which the connection is inactive [see column 8, lines 27-51].

As per claim 7, McHann discloses the master network management request message comprises at least two master object identifiers, each master object identifier comprising a client identifier that is unique from the client identifier of at least one other master object identifier [See Figure 4, block 406; column 8, lines 1-26 for object and client identifier in MIB].

As per claim 8, McHann discloses receiving an asynchronous client Trap message initiated by client over the connection established with the client, the asynchronous client Trap message including a client object identifier and a variable value associated with the client object identifier [column 8, line 27 – column 9, line 6]; identifying the client that initiated the asynchronous client Trap message [column 8, line 27 – column 9, line 6]; and generating an asynchronous master Trap message and providing the asynchronous master Trap message to the network management system , the asynchronous master Trap message including the value and a master object identifier , the master object identifier including a client identifier identifying the client that initiated the asynchronous

client Trap message and a variable portion identifying the variable value [column 8, line 27 – column 9, line 6].

As per claim 9, McHann discloses the variable portion of the master object identifier is the client object identifier [See Figure 4, block 406; column 8, lines 1-9 for object and client identifier in MIB].

As per claims 10-11 and 14-18, claims 10-11 and 14-18 are method claim of claims 1-2 and 5-9. They do not teach or further define over the limitation as recited in claims 1-2 and 5-9, respectively. Therefore, claims 10-11 and 14-18 are rejected under same scope as discussed in claims 1-2 and 5-9, supra.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 3-4 and 12-13, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McHann Jr. U.S. Patent Number 5,991,806 (hereinafter McHann) and further in view of Barry et al. U.S. Patent Number 7,225,249 (hereinafter Barry).

As per claim 3, McHann discloses each connection is a TCP/IP connection [see column 1,lines 30-32] that is established with a client; the connections module further records, in an active connections table, for each

connection, a client connection identifier in association with the client identifier identifying the client that initiated the connection [node table with unique object and management identifier, column 8, line 1- 8 and device power states indicating "Fully On" for active device state, column 11,lines 2-39]; and a device state machine provides [column 11,lines 2-39, device state] the client network management request message to the particular one of the clients by providing the client network management request over the connection that associates with the particular one of the clients in the active connections table .

However McHann is silent about each connection is a TCP/IP connection that is established with a client, through the firewall serving such client in response to receiving a connection request initiating by such client.

Barry in the same field endeavor as McHann teaches each connection is a TCP/IP connection that is established with a client, through the firewall [see column 10,lines 15-19 and 58-63] serving such client in response to receiving a connection request initiating by such client.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine McHann and Barry because they are both from the same field endeavor to provide an integrated customer interface and web-based delivery system for delivering to customers a number of telecommunications products and services available from remote servers that facilitates and simplifies customer access to, and management of, all of their

telecommunication network assets and network management products and services.

As per claim 4, McHann discloses the client connection identifier is a source IP address and a source port number obtained from a TCP/IP frame initiated by the client with which the connection is established [see column 1,lines 27-37 and column 8, line 56 – column 9, line 1].

As per claims 12-13, claims 12-13 are method claim of claims 3-4. They do not teach or further define over the limitation as recited in claims 3-4, respectively. Therefore, claims 12-13 are rejected under same scope as discussed in claims 3-4, supra.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See accompanying PTO 892.

a. Automated Trap Control For a Distributed Network Management System by Spencer U.S. Patent Number 6,253,243 B1.

b. Network Management System by Henderson et al. U.S. Patent Number 6,058,103.

c. Automated Trap Control For a Distributed Network Management System by Spencer U.S. Patent Number 6,253,243 B1.

d. Network Station and Network Management System by Ushijima et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,594,426.

e. Network Management System for Communication Networks by Azarmi et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,905,715.

f. Hierarchical Network Management System by Fujino et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,651,006.

g. Integrated Systems for Providing Communications Network Management Services and Interactive Generating Invoice Documents by Barry et al. U.S. Patent Number 7,225,249 B1.

9. A shortened statutory period for reply to this non-final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the applicant (See 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02,71002 (b)).

Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saket K. Daftuar whose telephone number is 571-272-8363. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm M-W.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Valencia Martin-Wallace can be reached on 571-272-0800. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SKD

Valencia Martin Wallace
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